

From: [helen.redfield](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027 - Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion
Date: Friday, October 10, 2025 11:55:03 AM

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Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

My name is Helen Redfield and I live at 2038 NW Lance Way in Corvallis, OR.

I am writing because I vigorously **OPPOSE** the expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill and urge you to **uphold your Planning Commission's unanimous denial of LU-24-027**, Republic Services' application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. The BCPC carefully considered all evidence provided by the applicant, as well as considerable testimony from credentialed experts and the community, and concluded unanimously that the application did *not* meet the required Burden of Proof.

My opposition to the landfill expansion is based on a number of reasons. I've lived in Benton county for the past 27 years and like you, I am strongly aligned with the county's 2040 "Thriving Communities" values which include responsible environmental stewardship, prioritizing public health, and sustainable waste management. Expanding the dump would be contrary to these values. In addition I feel that approving the conditional use permit for the landfill expansion would violate BCC criteria 53.215(1) and 53.215(2).

Specifically, BCC 53.215(1) requires that the proposed use *does not seriously interfere with uses on adjacent property or with the character of the area*. Already the increase in odors and trash over the years has negatively impacted my use and enjoyment of the EE Wilson game management area for hiking, biking and bird-watching. The expansion will only exacerbate these problems.

I also frequently swim in and canoe on the Willamette River. The expansion of the landfill will increase the amount of leachate that will be dumped into the river which will impact not just me, but everyone who uses the river. I'll be hesitant to spend time on the river due to the increased exposure to toxins in the leachate, e.g. PFAS and heavy metals.

Furthermore, BCC 53.215(2) requires that the proposed use *does not impose an undue burden on any public improvements, facilities, utilities, or services available to the area*. The expansion of the landfill will certainly increase the amount of truck traffic accessing the dump, which will require increased road maintenance as well as pose safety risks. There will undoubtedly be much more trash strewn along the roads which will need to be collected and will itself be a safety risk.

Finally, I want to address the fact that Republic has not met their burden of proof that there will be no actual impacts on the issues I have raised in this testimony. Republic's assertion that they are currently or will be complying with environmental

law is not sufficient. The BCC land use criteria are concerned with actual impacts rather than compliance with environmental law.

I believe Benton County should invest in waste reduction and recycling, as well as circular economy solutions, rather than expanding a landfill that perpetuate pollution and will place a long-term burden on our local communities. Please protect Benton County's reputation for outdoor recreation, clean air and water, agri-tourism, high tech and higher education.

Please reject LU-24-027. Thank you for your consideration and for protecting the health and future of Benton County.

Sincerely,
Helen Redfield
Corvallis, OR 97330